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FILED BY THE BOARD OF
SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

9-21-05
HT McCormack

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF THE	:	
SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF	:	Administrative Action
THE CERTIFICATION OF	:	
	:	
KHALIL A. HAMZA	:	
44SW00628300	:	
	:	CONSENT ORDER
TO PRACTICE SOCIAL	:	
WORK IN THE STATE OF	:	
NEW JERSEY	:	

This matter was opened before the New Jersey State Board of Social Work Examiners (hereinafter "the Board"), based on information the Board received from the Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee regarding respondent's November 2004 application for Certification as an Alcohol and Drug Counselor.

Respondent has been Certified as a Social Worker since 1994. In his 1994 application for Social Work Certification, he responded "no" to the question "Have you ever been convicted of a felony or a crime?" In his 2004 application for Certification as an Alcohol and Drug Counselor he stated that he was a Certified Social Worker and answered "yes" to the question "have you ever been convicted of a

criminal offense?" A Criminal History Summary revealed that he had been convicted of several crimes in 1975.

Respondent appeared pro se, before a Committee of the Board on April 15, 2005 to discuss his criminal history. He testified that he had been convicted of crimes in 1975 and failed to disclose the convictions in his application for certification as a social worker. He testified that he was mistaken in failing to disclose his criminal history and that he "must have been nervous" when he completed the application. Further he testified that in 1981 he changed his name from George Berdeguez, Jr. to Khalil A. Hazma. Respondent denied that his name change had any relation to his failure to disclose his criminal history. He expressed remorse about his lack of candor and testified about his successful and fulfilling work as a social worker and as an alcohol and drug counselor.

The Board having reviewed the documents, having considered that his last criminal conviction was thirty (30) years ago and that he acknowledges his mistake and has remorse regarding his failure to disclose his convictions; the Board finding that the following disposition of this matter is adequately protective of the public, resolving this matter only on behalf of the Board of Social Work Examiners, and other good cause appearing;

IT IS THEREFORE ON THIS 21st DAY OF Sept., 2005

ORDERED:

1. Respondent's certification to practice social work shall be suspended for six months, the entirety of which suspension shall be stayed and served as a period of probation.

2. Respondent is reprimanded pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(a) and (b) and N.J.S.A. 45:1-22 for misrepresentation or deception in failing to disclose his criminal history on his application for certification as a social worker.

3. Respondent's six month period of probation shall begin with the date of the filing of this order and shall continue until receipt of written notification from the Board stating that respondent has fully complied with the terms of this order.

4. During the period of probation and continuing thereafter respondent shall obey all of the laws of the State of New Jersey, the United States and their political subdivisions as well as all regulations, rules or laws pertaining to the practice of social work in this State or any other State.

5. During the period of probation, respondent shall inform all of his employers and supervisors of the terms of this order. Respondent shall cause his employers and supervisor to acknowledge in writing that they have each received a copy of this order. Respondent shall provide a copy of each such acknowledgment to the Board within ten (10) days of signature.

6. Respondent is assessed a civil penalty in the amount of \$250.00 for misrepresentation or deception in failing to disclose his criminal history. Said penalty shall be paid by certified check or money order made payable to the State of New Jersey and submitted to Kay K. McCormack, Executive Director, State Board of Social Work Examiners, PO Box 45033, Newark, New Jersey 07101. The penalty is due upon signing of the within Consent Order.

NEW JERSEY BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK
EXAMINERS


Doreen J. Bobby, MSW, LCSW
Chair

I have read and understand the within
Consent Order and agree to be bound by
by its terms. I hereby consent to the
terms of the order.


Khalil Hamza

I have read the within Order.

Taleesa McComb-Oden
(Print name) John - [signature] License #
Supervisor or Employer (indicate which one)
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(including area code and extension number)
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